

*File PAC*

30 October 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: Bruce T. Johnson  
Chairman, Fine Arts Commission

SUBJECT: Loan of Art Works from National Museum of American  
Art (NMAA)

REFERENCE: Memo for the Record dtd 26 October 81, subject:  
Meeting with Mr. Vincent Melzac and Ms Merry  
Foresta, 16 October 1981

On 30 October 1981 I received a telephone call from Ms. Merry Foresta of the National Museum of American Art. She told me that she had learned that the NMAA charter, and the terms under which it borrows or otherwise acquires works of art, prohibit exhibition in any setting which is not open to the public at large. A request for display of NMAA works in the State Department had been refused about five years ago for this same reason. It was clear that Ms. Foresta was as disappointed as I was at this outcome of our earlier discussions, and it was equally clear that any effort on my part to pursue the matter further would be both unavailing and potentially embarrassing to her.

[Redacted Signature Box]

Bruce T. Johnson

STAT

cc: DDA  
OL/LSD (Attn: [Redacted])  
OPA (Attn: [Redacted])

STAT